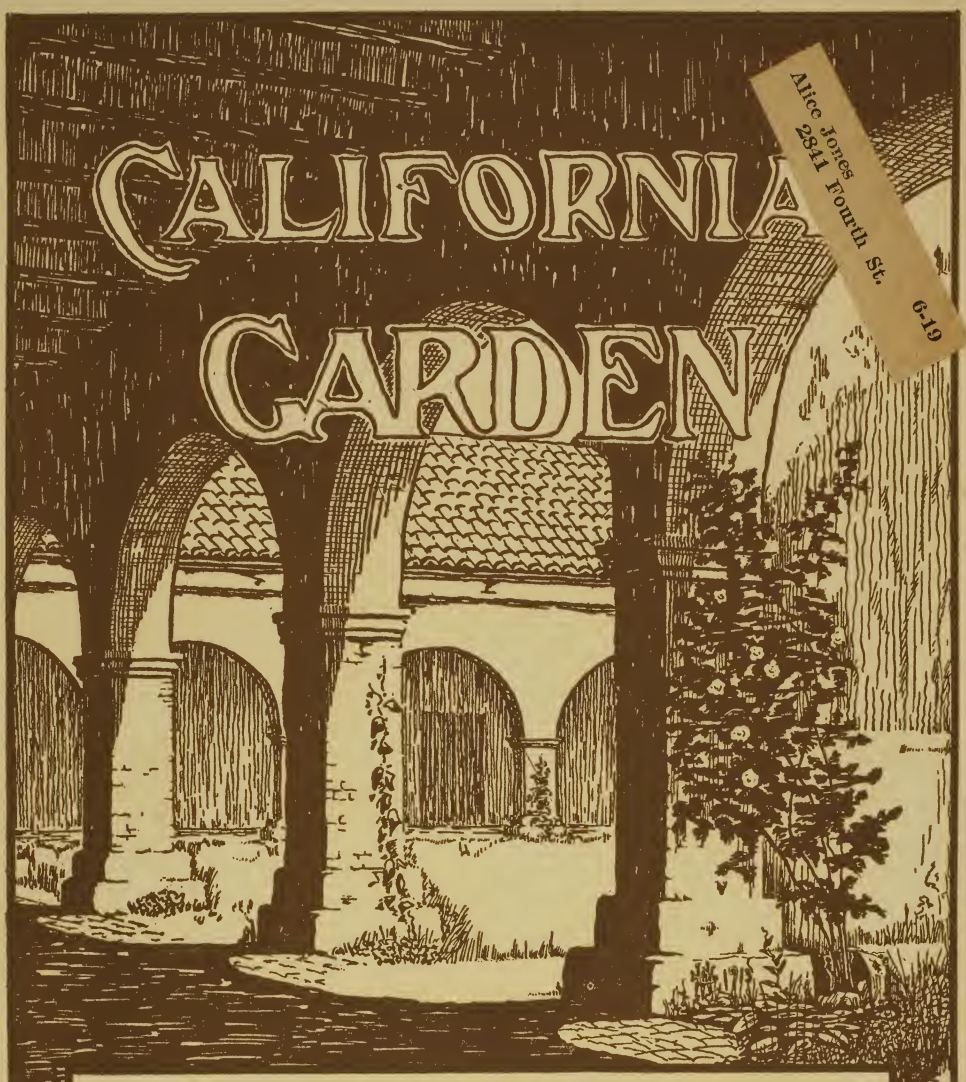

Alice Jones
2841 Fourth St.
6-19

Per Year
One Dollar

August, 1918

Per Copy
Ten Cents

Wheat—Gift of the Gods

What to Plant and How to Plant It

The Lath House

The Dahlia Show Briefly Reviewed

SECURITY BANK
COMMERCIAL
SAVINGS
THE MILLION DOLLAR SCALES
1882
SAN DIEGO

Corner of Fifth and E Sts.

4% Interest on Term Savings
Safety Deposit Boxes, $2.00 per year
Foreign Exchange
Mexican Money Bought and Sold

W. S. Dorland, President
Sam Ferry Smith, Vice-President
O. E. Darnall, Cashier

Merchants National Bank

Granger Block, Cor. Fifth and Broadway

Capital { Orininally Paid in ---------$100,000.00
Increased from Earnings-- $150,000,00
$250,000.00

Surplus (All earned) ----------$500,000.00

FOR a period of *twenty-four years* this bank has transacted a strictly commercial banking business, and has declined to pay interest on deposits in any form. This conservative policy has enabled it to build up a ***Surplus Fund*** for the protection of its depositors larger than any other banking institution in the City of San Diego.

Your Account [Subject to Check] is Invited

Electric Porch Lighting

Is Economical Protection

Lighting up the front porch steps and walks will prevent many a misstep in the dark.

It welcomes visiting friends and reassures the householder when he returns after a few hours' absence.

It is the best burglar insurance you can buy.

The reduced rates for electric light make the monthly cost range from 30c to 55c for 25 Watt Mazda Lamp.

Porch lighting is an evidence of community spirit
Try it as an experiment

San Diego Consolidated Gas and Electric Company

935 Sixth Street

Home 4119 *Sunset Main 64*

The

FLOWER SHOP

Cut Flowers
Floral Designs

Miss Rainford *1115 Fourth St*

The California Garden

Published Monthly by the San Diego Floral Association
One Dollar per Year, Ten Cents per Copy

Vol. 10 POINT LOMA, CALIFORNIA, AUGUST, 1918 No. 2

Wheat---(A Gift *of* the Gods)

Alfred D. Robinson

OUR Guy Fleming, he that has stood season after season at our shows with his specimens of native growths seeking to interest the callous passerby, has gone home to Washington Territory to help his folks harvest the wheat. In ordinary times we might indulge in regrets at the temporary loss of so valuable a contributor to our magazine but he has gone to WORK IN THE WHEAT and today wheat is the heart's desire of all men from folks to chickens and he that works therein is too blessed to be recalled even with regrets.

If we were not so accustomed to the blessing of wheat we should probably have asked what is this little grain, priced today above rubies by the nations, and whence comes it? An old Encyclopaedia published in Edinburgh in 1872 says it is a grass of the genus Triticum believed to be native to Asia and then qualifies this by saying that a learned M. Fabre, of Agde, in France, found that a Mediterranean grass called AEGILOPS OVATA becomes transformed into wheat by cultivation but the accompanying illustrations of the process are unconvincing. Madame Blavatsky in her Secret Doctrine remarks, "Wheat has never been found in the wild state; it is not a product of the earth. All the other cereals have been traced to their primogenital forms in various species of wild grasses, but wheat has hitherto defied the efforts of Botanists to trace it to its origin." The context conveys the suggestion that the gods brought wheat from elsewhere for man's sustenance and probably no one today will deny that wheat is the gift of the gods.

We have gone back to this hopelessly out-of-date reference book because we could not bear to run the risk of finding some wizard trying to steal the invention of wheat from the gods. We are filled with the romance of wheat. We recall the Triology of the Wheat, by Frank Norris, and could almost find it in our heart to envy his character who was gradually drowned in the wheat as it sucked him under in an elevator, and then we see the wheat in its process of returning forty, sixty, and some an hundredfold to the care of the husbandman, under varying skies. First in England, to whom we are sending our millions of bushels that her people may be fed, and there the plowman with meticulous care turns a plumb straight furrow in a little field hedged with thorn and hazel, topped here and there by a great oak. The plowing is a cult learned by son from father for generations and it is almost an unforgiveable sin to get off the straight or vary the depth. Even the great plow horses feel the importance of the work and guided only by a single cord and the word of command they tread the straight and narrow path. When the field is plowed the furrows lay like ruled lines and the headlands cross at right angles at two ends like signatures to a completed document. Then the harrowing and the drilling in of the seed, later the hoeing of the weeds where they mar the perfect green pattern of the carpet. If the rain has fallen in season and the sun shone, in due time the wheat reaches full stature standing thick and straight and within their sheaths the heads form, the grain swells and the gold of maturity succeeds the green of growing time. Then comes the harvest, done now with whirring machinery that cuts the standing grain evenly and smoothly and swallowing it spews it out from its side in well bound sheaves, but before then the men with scythes came early in the morning and setting the handle on the earth grasped the curving blade by its middle with heel resting on the shoulder and plied the whetstone with skilled wrist play till the air

rang with the vibrating metal. Then the leader spread his corduroyed legs, bent his back, and with rythmic swing commenced to eat his way across the field and behind him at even distances the gang followed after. Later came the women of the men and bound the wheat into sheaves and piled the sheaves into shocks which stood on end till the sun had hardened the grain enough to make it safe to stack. Into stacks it went with the heads turned in, such wonderful stacks so beautifully made in rounds and oblongs and squares, and then the thatcher, a master craftsman, put on the roof of straw through which no rain drop should go and at the apex like a signature contrived a cunning tassel. Such a lot of care all to be undone when the threshing machine came round and took the bright plump grain from the gleaming straw and yet it surely was fitting that the Wheat should be followed through its course with fitting ceremonial. It is the gift of the Gods and the Hearts Desire of the nations.

Only a decade ago we saw the wheat ripe for the harvest in sunny Andalusia and it took us back to the Bible times of Ruth and Boaz, for across the field in a waving line stooping double went men, women and children with sickles. They grasped a handful of stalks with the left hand and severed them below with the sickle in their right and made piles as they went slowly and painfully along. Possibly that wheat was threshed out on a floor by the ox that the Bible says shall not be muzzled as he does it. We still can see that waving line of bent figures showing so plainly in their bright colored costumes against the gold of the wheat and to complete the impossibility of the picture to a western mind, solemn storks in black and white moved with dignity in the foreground.

What a jump through the ages to the great plains of central California where the wheat stretched in all directions as far as the eye could reach. The plowing, a thing of many mules that followed a furrow so long that at first they could barely go out and return in a long day, the result of a week's effort by a small army of men and animals, a dark streak only across the landscape. The harvesting with a monster drawn by twenty-four mules that ate the standing stalks and vomited sacked grain. Its hauling with wagons coupled together behind a string of mules along dusty paths that grew ever more dusty till the caravan moved in a pillar of dust.

But the picture is so familiar that it need not be elaborated. We realize now that these operations keyed up to such a magnitude were robberies of the land which year by year under the burden of wheat and nothing but wheat, has grown weary and exhausted and can no longer fill the sacks as before. Perhaps the Gods demand a fitting ceremonial for the business of the wheat. They say, "where are our scythemen with their whetstones to hymn us in the morning; where are our women with their kerchief bound hair; where our bonny stack and our threshing floors?" Of course, this is preposterous. We want wheat, more wheat, all the wheat we can get. The nations hunger for wheat, but some day when the earth no longer groans under the snarls, and bites, and foamings of its mad dogs and the hunting of them, it may have leisure to think of the romance of the wheat and work out a ceremonial in which it shall be honored by a pageant of sickle and scythe, of binder and thatcher, of sheaves and stacks and men shall doff their hats and say, "To the Wheat, the gift of the Gods."

RESULTS FIRST YEAR OF FOOD ADMINISTRATION

(Preliminary work began May 9, 1917, Food Control Act passed August 10, 1917.)

Wheat exports (since July 1) estimated surplus for export 20,000,000 bushels, actual shipments to June 120,000,000 bushels.

Beef exports, ordinary rate one to two million pounds monthly. Largest single month this year, 87,000,000 lbs.

Pork exports, ordinary rate, 50,000,000 pounds monthly. Largest month this year 308,000,000 lbs.

Price of flour (Minneapolis), one year ago $16.75 a barrel wholesale. Present price, $9.80 per barrel.

Price margin (between farmer's wheat and flour made from it), one year ago the difference was $5.68. Present date the difference is 64 cents.

In general: To the farmer going to market, 27 per cent more than last summer; to the housewife buying in market, 13 per cent less than last summer.

It's a lot better for the whole of us to be eating American oats, or rice, or corn or barley, or Irish-American pertaties than to have the Kaiser feeding us German crow at point of a sixteen-inch gun," says Mrs. O'Flaherty.

The Lath House

A. D. Robinson

OH the joy of the lathhouse these hot days; that is, if there is room to get in and make oneself comfortable. Again it must be emphasized that unless a lathhouse is planned so as to be an out-of-door sitting room it misses its largest function. Our training through living today is not one calculated to build a lathhouse at all, much less to visualise its builder lounging within its bower-like limits, for its efficiency does not work out in dollars and cents but in beauty and nature and soul food. That paragraph is not clear as to whether these latter things belong to the training of our lives or the lathhouse, however very few will fail to place them where they belong even if they have no lathhouse. It is a sacred privilege not a chore to water the lathhouse; it presents an opportunity to visit with all the plants. How do you do the watering? Do you just go over the space with the hose estimating that it takes so many minutes from some other pursuit, or is it a joyous galumph among your friends during which you dispense cooling drinks all around? Before this article was written the sacred rite of watering was performed lingeringly as a Sunday privilege and the following observations taken.

Year by year more things commonly grown outside get into this lathhouse, chiefly because it is a summer garden before it is an emporium for plants that won't grow without its protection, and has degrees of sun and shade just as outside, modified of course. Today a Justicia that was planted as a small slip is blooming. It is quite unlike the same thing grown outside being rather slender with luxuriant leaves and the bloom has a completed appearance. It is much handsomer and really effective in the lathhouse, both for bloom and foliage. Then a planting has been made of Morea Iridioides and Bicolor, not because they won't bloom outside but because their foliage and color are wanted to give a certain feel. You see the idea is that this lathhouse is a garden and must be carefully landscaped. This magazine has continually harped upon the necessity of playing up to accent points in garden treatment and that is even more essential in the lathhouse. We must be a little Japanesee in that an illusion of greater space is desirable. No doubt a stunning effect on entering is to be sought but at the same time it should be one of invitation to come in and explore; the suggestion of hidden beauties should be given. The supreme value of border space has been often emphasized. Having planned from the entrance the next point to accent is the sitting down place and there must be one of these in spite of the fact that the majority of visitors have not time to sit down in a lathhouse. Sixteen folks came into the one inspiring this writing yesterday and only four sat down, but selfish as it may sound the lathhouse should be planned for its owner and not for its effect on outsiders and so back to our sitting down place. There is every good reason for spending a good deal of thought about this for it will unconsciously set the lathhouse value in its owner's mind. Sit down in the easy chair and look round, what do you see? Legs of benches and rows of pots, the wrong side of plants, the waste basket, a jarring juxtaposition of warring colors? Then you must move things around for you want the lathhouse to make you feel it is much worthwhile when you relax to take the kinks out of your back and the soil from under your finger nails. It is impossible to say what you should do without a specific case to doctor, but you will know when the effect pleases and when it does not or leaves you untouched. You will see when one plant spoils the effect of another, when a growth closes a space that should be open, or where a vista leads to a blank wall. This all emphasizes the policy of keeping a lot of things in pots and boxes so that they can be readily brought to bear upon such problems and in this connection the usefulness of tuberous begonias in pots cannot be over-estimated. The writer has admitted that this stuff is hot off the bat so to speak, and sitting this morning in the easy chair an accent point was found bare and uninteresting. A tall asparagus hid a beautiful flame Impatiens and the foreground was just green leaves of Streptocarpus out of bloom. The asparagus was cut away and a tuberous begonia found just the shade of the Impatiens which with two more sunk to the top of the pot resurrected the foreground and a Templini just filled a hole that ended in the uninteresting lower stalks of a tall Rubra. Ten minutes only and what a transformation. Don't get the idea that the lathhouse is ever finished. It cannot be and remain of any interest.

In my watering I met the ginger vine winding like a snake by a bignonia to the roof and remembered how last week scores of seedlings had been weeded out. Why this ginger vine anyway? Its bloom is extremely insignificant, its habit attenuated, and its self-propagation too earnest. It is a catalogue humbug,

it survives and flourishes while poor Tupidanthus C has passed on. He never recovered from having his head chopped off. An expert said he should have been outside and it must be acknowledged he would have had his head there if he had been permitted.

The variegated Phyllanthus is now putting forth its beautiful leaves of white, pink, green and several other shades. It too has been grown outside but it is far lovelier inside and worth a place in any lathhouse even if Hawaii has hedges of it.

Aralia Elegantissima is good for a year or two, after then it gets coarse with leaves confined to a top crown and is not to be recommended for any but large houses.

A lady now in San Diego from the East dropped in the other day and said that a year ago she visited California and saw our flowers and lathhouses and went home and cleaned out her greenhouse, finding its inhabitants. "Fair ridiculous" after what she had seen. There can be no harm in this little pandering to the vice of comparison because the location of the act is not known any closer than just back East.

The Glory of the Dahlia

Alfred D. Robinson

THIS number is expected to be out for the Dahlia show to be held at The California Building in the Park, Sunday, August 18, and so it ought to have something serious about dahlias. This is written just on the tail of those three days that were so hot—in other places, the first of August, and every day the dahlias have suffered horribly in the warm sun. It is such an adaptable plant, making a stab at growing almost everywhere, that one is apt to forget its predilection for cool weather and so we have planted to bring our dahlia show at the most unfavorable season of the whole summer when hot weather will be here according to the law of averages. This is not recited to blame any one but to endeavor to see whether a good deal earlier or later date cannot be fixed for future shows and planting be made to coincide therewith. The whole fault lies with the marvelous climate of this region which allows the lazy man to leave his tubers in the ground over winter and starts up the same so early that blooms may be picked in a favorable year in April, a month earlier than the planting date in Europe or the Eastern States. From tubers left undug through the winter the best blooms will come in late June and possibly a Fourth of July show would catch splendid flowers, but there ought also to be a planting to be at its best in October. This cannot be safely made before June which means green plants, either rooted cuttings for named sorts or seedlings for experiment. The green plants made from cuttings are obtained by plunging tubers in sand half way and using the shoots as they reach three or four inches in length. These shoots are placed in sand in pots and kept wet and shaded. They root most readily and any kind of a shelter will suffice. The tubers should not be started for cuttings till mid-April for a June planting and seed about the same time.

So far the operation appears very simple and the part of the dahlia is really so. It is the folks that make the difficulty. They all plant to suit themselves, which generally means when the thought occurs to them, or a nurseryman jogs their memory, with the inevitable result that no show date can catch a good majority of the growers at their best. This magazine has tried to start a dahlia club within the Floral Association to regulate this matter and a few enthusiasts said they would join but nothing in the way of real interest materialized. How about reviving this idea at this dahlia show, getting a dahlia show committee at work pledging exhibitors for next year, getting their promise down in black and white and evolving a program of continuous reminders and encouragement till the promises become accomplished facts in lots of good exhibits. Let us leave that there in the hopes that something will be doing.

If that cheese cloth stuff ever gets back within experimental limits I shall try growing dahlies under it, just a cover, no side or other shelter, probably about eight feet up would be right. Whenever a hot sun shines on a dahlia it wilts no matter whether it has water enough, and all other conditions perfect, and then within half an hour of the sun's going off it it revives. This every day wilting is a tremendous strain on the plant and probably the shelter suggested would do away with it and the delicate shades would be better in color. A month ago Rheingau, the brilliant red, gave perfect color; today all the blooms burn and a very full bloom has faded outside petals before the inside ones unfold. This cover must not shut off much

light, only temper the sun or else a vigorous dahlia would try to be a tree. Even in England dahlias are planted by preference where they will be shaded at least half the day. There is no doubt that such a covering would save a great deal of water.

Watering with mulching and keeping off the spent bloom is the work for this month. Another crop can be obtained if the old stalks are cut down to the ground and the same treatment as at planting given, except that mulching is most necessary at this season. Mildew is likely to appear, especially where plants have lacked for water or food. Sulphuring may help, but once this trouble gets started on a plant it is hard to stop and the best remedy is to cut back to the ground. It hardly ever appears on a young, vigorous plant. Ants are often troublesome but Talbot's ant powder or buhach are effective discouragers. Thrips are bad but you must consult Mr. Birch about them. I grin and bear them as a due for my sins.

You will go to the show and firmly intend to have some of those next year. That is the trouble, you mean well but you are up in the air and will stay there unless I can pull you down. Go into your garden and decide where you will plant dahlias next year and what colors you want—THIS BEFORE THE SHOW. Go to the show with the idea of picking out the varieties you want, have the number fixed, each plant wants three feet, and order them THERE for delivery at planting time. There was a time when I hoped to regulate your planting according to a color scheme, but I am more modest now. Plant any darned color you like, so long as you plant something.

The Flower Garden

By Miss Mary Matthews.

While it seems very warm and almost useless to talk about winter and spring gardens, still this is the season when we should be getting ready for the coming season.

All ground where the early blooms are past, where the asters, sweetpeas, etc., have bloomed and gone, should now be cleared, spaded up and if not manured in the spring, should have a good top dressing of fertilizer well watered. Keep your soil loose on top till used again.

We should cultivate all through August incidentally to keep down weeds, principally to maintain a mulch of loose surface soil which will hold the moisture underground where the roots will get the benefit. Bone meal is a good fertilizer at this season. A handful sprinkled round the plants and well watered in will keep things wonderfully.

If you have not gone over your violet beds do it this month. Divide old clumps and transplant into beds of well prepared soil. See that they are well watered and shaded till new growth begins. If you want to have some hollyhocks next season you should put your seed in now. They are showy things and make a beautiful border plant if placed in the background. Bordeaux mixture is the only preventive for hollyhock rust. Spraying should commence as soon as the seedlings show their true leaves and continue every few weeks till they bloom. You can take a chance on planting seeds of most any of the winter blooming annuals this month. A great many of them will probably not come through, but you may get enough to make a showing early in the season. Plant again next month to have a continued lot.

There has been great improvement of late in some of our old friends among the annuals. Some of the new antirrhinums, or snapdragons, are wonderful in color, also the aquilegias (columbines). These are perennial but bloom quickly from seed. The new long-spurred hybrids are fine. Then there is the bell-flowered columbine. In this the spurs are eliminated, Aquilegia clemataquilla. Another new thing highly prized for cutting is Eustoma Russelliamum, Texas blue bell. Two good things for bouquets are the new gypsophilla elegans carmineaux (this, in spite of its name, is very delicate and pretty) likewise Agrostis Pendula, a feathery grass.

Watch for green fly and aphids on your chrysanthemums. If troubled with them dust with tobacco powder in the early morning, while the dew is still on them. Every insect just seems to be trying to see what they can devour this season. All your choice shrubs should be looked after at this season. Keep the ground loose and moist around them and give a good mulch of strawy manure if you can get it. The secret of success through this dry time is water, cultivation and mulching. With small seedlings, where you mulch with litter, you are apt to have the whole crop eaten off by snails and slugs. I much prefer to have the soil open and keep it constantly stirred.

Don't forget the early blooming bulbs and tubers. Where crowded, lift, divide and give fresh soil and a good watering every now and then till the rains come. I notice under a guava bush, where some freesias have grown for several seasons, they are already pushing up their leaf growth. As this bush is watered frequently. It would indicate the bulbs need water thus early in the season.

Pickings and Peckings

By THE EARLY BIRD

RECENTLY was in a barber's shop getting my drake feathers trimmed. It was just a three-chair affair with none of the frills and plate glass effects of the big emporium; a mere shop with necessary tools where one could get a hair cut without having to refuse a long list of expensive extras. One chair bore a khaki clad figure with head enveloped in a steaming towel, I climbed into another, and the occupant of the third got up, paid his check, and departed leaving a barber free to take up the evening paper, who after a glance or two said, "IT says here that two hundred marriages occurred in an eastern city following the extension of the draft age and all of them below forty-five." The barber patting the steam towel leaned over to the spittoon and spat fiercely so that he could inject "I have my opinion of a man who skulks behind a woman's skirts." My man paused with the comb pulling every tender hair over my right ear and snorted out "Well I'm laughing at the idea of their thinking they were escaping anything by getting married." and he chuckled sardonically. "You said a whole mouthful then," added the discoverer of the paragraph. Then commenced a discussion of what was intended by the new draft law, bringing out various opinions, among which was one to the effect that it was to get a line on possible industrial workers more than fighting men. Finally my executioner, who, in the excitement, was giving me a near-shave instead of a trim, threw in, "What do you think, Soldier man?" From out the towel came an almost infantile face, it was so smooth and fair, and the hair on the head was mown so close, but its expression was one of habitual seriousness such as I encountered on the face of my infant when I cavorted foolishly for her entertainment, and the soldier man stood up in his undershirt with arms as white as milk, he took his tunic from the peg, and as he got into it I noticed the dark sweat marks under the arm, and then replied: "You chaps don't seem to get this thing. There are not many of us in it that have not made considerable sacrifice. We are not fighting for what we can get out of it, we are fighting to make it decent to live. I am fighting to give the world democracy," and he put on his hat and walked out wholefooted as if he was right then going to begin in earnest.

I cannot get the soldier man out of my mind. I don't want to. He was exceedingly comforting then and the thought of him fighting for democracy is still comforting. Always my mind's eye brings him with those sweat marks on his tunic and they are the most comforting thing of all. They take my memory back to sonorous Bible phrases wherein much was to be done by sweat, beginning early in Genesis with God's sentence on Adam, "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread." This soldier man with his fair, child-like face is going to sweat all that is necessary to back up and make a reality the soldier's creed. It shall be the mark of honor that the tunic is wet under the armpits.

That barber shop is but a sample of the whole country. Wherever men must meet they ask of each other, "What do you think of it?" and the thinks are many and diverse. All literature is permeated with the war question. As a preface to a recent book the author refers to a civilization called Christian that is committing suicide. In a popular weekly another writer advocates a huge advertising campaign and fiction is largely the astounding variegated fact of the war. It is supposable that in former wars the same accompaniment of comment and criticism went along but history left this out as unimportant and the things written and said three years ago are not in the main prophetic in the light of today. If the Christian civilization is passing it is not committing suicide, but giving its life that a better may take its place. Civilizations have not died from wrong dying but wrong living. It is passing well that men and nations should realize that there are times when it is better to die than to live and not only better but gloriously so when the fight is for a principle not personal gain.

The soldier man said "You chaps don't get this thing." He evidently meant that the object of the draft in detail, or of any other war measure, was not worth discussing when it was just guessing, and the difference nothing, whether the discussers were right or wrong. He was fighting to make the world a fit place for democracy, that is, for just folks, and that was all that mattered, however, he would have a close hair cut and a closer shave so that as his most decent man he would go about a decent job with the sweat marks under his armpits.

If you eat contrary to the Food Administration's request, the Kaiser's representative and not your boy may fill the vacant chair at your table.

The Lath House Spirit

By P. D. Barnhart

CALIFORNIA is famous for its Lath Houses. They vary in size and architectural design, according to the size of the bank account of the builders thereof, and the purposes for which they are built.

Some are built for the pleasure their owners get out of them, others are built for economic reasons alone. They are five degrees warmer during the rainy or spring seasons of the year, than is the outdoors; about ten degrees cooler during the summer, or dry season, and the humidity of the atmosphere within one of these buildings varies from five to ten per cent, depending upon the distance of the lath, one from the other. A multitude of sub-tropical plants can be grown to perfection within a lath house, in the coastal section of the state, which would perish outside such a building, either from the frosts of the spring months, or the dessicated atmosphere of the summer, hence their necessity in the art of gardening in these regions, whether plants are grown for pleasure or for profit.

It is of those which are built for the pleasure, for the joy, for the home comforts one may, and should get out of them, if properly constructed and given intelligent care that I write. It is not my purpose at this time, to go into the details of soil, location, architectural design, either of the superstructure, or of the walks and beds beneath it. Time at my disposal, and space in this journal preclude any such attempts on the elaboration of the subject; indeed to do it thoroughly in all its phases would require a good-sized volume.

At any rate there is no necessity for great elaboration of the idea, because this article is written primarily for readers who are within easy reach of the best specimens of this class of buildings that have come under my observation; all located in San Diego.

There are several essentials necessary to the attainment of enjoyment, full and complete when the idea of building a lath house is begotten, and entertained. I shall name five of them.

1. The owner thereof must have an inherent love for plants. A love like that may be acquired, but I doubt it.

2. He must have a tenacity of purpose which will buoy him up, and carry him over disappointments, because failures in plant production are inseparably connected with the game.

3. He must be a close observer, and capable of discovering the reasons of cause and effect; the why and the wherefore of the failure or the success of his efforts in keeping plants happy under artificial conditions.

4. His enthusiasm must be boundless, his energies tireless, his faith in the integrity of his fellowmen unshaken, even though he does meet with some who are charlatans, and fakirs in the disseminations of plants.

5. He must be industrious. Don't forget that "no great excellence is attained without great labor." A husky may be hired to do the heavy work, but the owner must know how the work should be done. There is something more involved in the idea of work than grubbing and real hard manual labor, and the amateur who attempts a lath house, such as I have in mind, and such as may be found in San Diego, will soon discover what I have in mind when I say work, and plenty of it, is essential to success.

He must have some money. Some loose change in the pockets of his jeans: not as much as most people suppose to be necessary to begin a lath house, but some; the amount required to be determined by the size of the undertaking.

Having the four qualifications before named, the fifth one will solve itself.

A lath house owned and cared for by a person mentally and physically equipped, as I have tried to describe, becomes a living thing. It partakes of the character, and of the spirit of the owner. It breathes a benediction on all who enter its sacred portals; it is an inspiration to high ideals, to exalted purposes, and when one comes within its pale, and under its beneficent influences, he forgets for the time at least, the idea of killing his fellowmen.

Such is the character of a lath house owned and operated by Alfred D. Robinson, Editor of California Garden.

Food production and food conservation along horticultural lines are to be the foremost features of the Mid-West Horticultural Exposition in Des Moines, Iowa, November 5-8, 1918.

Put the right food on the home table and the camp table will take care of itself.

This international food sharing is just looking after "my folks", your folks", and "our folks."

In the presence of a common enemy we sit at a common table with all people defenders.

Balboa Bode Talks Planting

Our planting program for end of August and September covers some of the most necessary plants to make our gardens attractive, not to forget the fact that some of our best cut-flowers must be seeded at this time. We shall consider the following in our cultural notes Schizanthus, Pansy, Campanula medium, Calycanthema (cup and saucer) (Cyclamen) Hollyhocks, Calendulas, Sweet-Peas.

Schizanthus is mostly offered in two varieties: the "wisetonensis", a bushy, free-flowering kind, mostly grown by florists and for pot culture; the other variety is offered as "mixed". These are taller and best suited for cut-flowers. Both these varieties come in mixed colors. Schizanthus are best seeded in shallow pans or boxes, about 3 inches deep. A mixture of one part sand, 1 part leafmold and 1 part garden soil is best suited; never use manure in seed boxes of any plants, as manure promotes the damping off of the young seedlings. The soil should be screened moistened and tamped to a smooth surface. Seed evenly allowing one-fourth square inch to each seed; then screen sand over seed pan sufficient to cover the seeds. Water with fine rose to prevent washing of seeds. Another good way is to set the seed box in shallow water (about 1 inch deep) and let the water soak up through the bottom, but do not leave too long, as the soil would become soppy, which is not desirable. The box should then be placed in a lathhouse, or better yet in a small frame, that is covered with muslin or burlap. After the seed come up they should be hardened off. This is best done by removing burlap from frame in the late afternoon and keep off until the sun gets too strong in the morning. This should be done gradually, a few hours at first. The seedlings will become much sturdier through hardening and will stand transplanting better. After the young plants become large enough to handle transplant into 2½ inch pots and plant into garden after they become well established in these pots or if intended for pot-culture transplant into 4 inch, from there to 6 inch and 8 inch pots, never allowing the Schizanthus to become very potbound. After they are root bound in the 8 inch pots a weak manure watering once a week will be advisable, but be sure to have it weak, just enough to color the water. A location protected from wind, but not from light, will be found best.

Pansies are among our most favored plants and should be in every garden. They can be seeded from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15 for winter-bloom. Never seed pansies during a hot spell as a good many seedlings would damp off. They are best seeded in shallow boxes or in a seed frame, where they can be protected from heat and birds. The seed-bed should be good sandy soil in well-moistened condition. The surface should be even and level and be tamped with a brick. Then seed out and cover seed about one-sixteenth inch with sand; sand prevents baking and allows young sprouts to come through. Use a fine spray for watering and never allow seed-bed to become dry. The young plants should be shaded with muslin or burlap until they are up, then use shade during heat only in order to get sturdy plants. It is advisable to use wire screens over the seed beds as birds are very eager for the young seedlings, Broadcast seeding is best, then transplant when seedlings show about 3 true leaves about 2 inches apart, or seed pansies far enough apart to allow them to remain in seed-bed until ready to be planted in their permanent location. The last method would appeal to people that are inexperienced in transplanting small seedlings; but the first method makes by far the best root system. Their final location should be fertilized with well-rotted manure, as Pansies are strong feeders. These notes apply also to Viola coronuta Papilio which are smaller flowered, but repay well by their abundance of bloom.

Campanula medium, Campanula calycanthema (cup and saucers) are well worth trying as they flower freely next summer if seed is put in now. Campanula pyramidalis has not done as well with us. These are also best seeded in frame and transplanted in 2½ inch pots until large enough to go to their permanent location. They are adapted to plantings in beds; for cut flowers, or for foreplantings along shrubbery or hardy border. Their colors are mostly white, pink and blue shades and very showy.

Hollyhocks are well worth considering especially to plant between shrubbery and amongst hardy border. They are perennial, but best seeded out every year in this climate and treated the same as Campanula. Calendulas are of such easy cultivation that little needs to be be said about them. They can be seeded in frame without shade or seeded in their permanent location. To get sturdy plants seed in frame; then transplant about 2 inches apart and move to final location as soon as plants are strong enough; having about 6 to 8 leaves.

Sweet Peas ought to be planted the end of August or begining of September if blooms are expected by Christmas. The preparation of the ground is one of the main items in Sweet Pea growing, there should be perfect drainage as well as a good water supply. If possible new ground should be chosen every year and should be well manured. The fertilizer should be well rotted, otherwise would best be omitted. Sweet Peas make many roots above their seed, therefore it is best to seed in a shallow furrow, say about 6 inches deep;cover the seed about 1 inch. The rows should be at least 3 feet apart. After seedlings come up thin out to aboue 6 inches apart and supply supports as soon as possible; chicken-wire about 6 feet high will be found to be most convenient. As the vines grow fill your furrow in until level with the other ground. Water by irrigation between the rows as spraying will ruin the flowers. Sweet Peas are apt to be infected with aphis and a spray with water through a strong nozzle would then become necessary. Avoid the use of Nicotene unless as a last resort, as it spoils all blooms present at the time of application. If the ground is not ready when time for seeding comes along or expensive seeds are used plant peas in small pots, 3 seeds to each pot, and place in frame. After they are about 2 inches high transplant to field about 9 inches apart. This last method would also apply where birds or snails are abundant, as they are not liable to eat the young growth after it becomes hard. When you order your seed be sure to get winter varieties; Spencer varieties or other summer bloomers will not bloom until late spring even if planted at this time.

Cyclamen are only adapted for those that are fortunate enough to have glass or lathhouses. If seeded now they should be in full bloom around Christmas, 1919. That may seem to many a long time off, but it will come around just as sure as your taxes and if you have not seeded now you will be without them in 1919.

Cyclamen are fine house-plants, their cut flowers keep well in water and made up with a little maiden-hair fern make splendid corsages for the younger set. Leafmold is absolutely essential for Cyclamen, so you all better take a trip to the back country. One-half leaf mold, one-fourth sand, one-fourth good soil is a fair mixture. Seed out in shallow boxes or pans, placing the seed singly about 1 inch apart and cover one-eighth inch with sand. Then water with fine spray thoroughly and place on a shelf or bench near the glass. If placed too far from glass they are sure to become spindly. They should have all the ventilation possible and also be shaded during sunshine with newspapers or a small burlap frame besides the shading already on the glass.

After these seedlings have about 3 leaves, transplant into small pots just deep enough to cover the small bulblets; this is an important detail as the bulblets would become hard if exposed and the plant's growth thereby stunted. On the other hand be careful not to get the center of plant too deep, the bulblet should just be covered, no more. While potting firm the soil only lightly as Cyclamen prefer loose soil. As soon as rooted through transplant in next size of pots and continue to transplant until a final potting in a 6 or 7½ inch pot or fern pans. At the last potting it is advisable to have the bulb about half above the soil, as the bulb will harden some and thereby be induced to straw flowers. A fine spraying twice a day during sunshine is desirable. Watering should be done very carefully as most of the success depends on this. Pots should never be soaking wet nor anywhere near dry. Good growers go over their plants twice a day. Make a small wooden hammer with a bamboo handle and knock on the pots while you water with your can in one hand; the dry pots will ring like a bell; while the wet have a dull sound; try it, you soon become an expert in pot-ringing. No one can tell a dry pot by looking at it; it may be wet on top only. Watering in the center of plants should also be avoided as decay is liable to set in. A light manure watering may be advisable after they become rooted in their final pots. Keep Cyclamen cool during winter month as they prefer to grow slowly and sturdy.

GREAT BRITAIN ESCAPES BREAD RATIONING

America's self denial in saving wheat has enabled Great Britain to escape the necessity of rationing bread. With higher extraction in milling and through the addition of substitutes, the British have been able to extend the bread value of the wheat which America has sent. As a result they are feeling a security which has added greatly to the morale of the people. Now they are looking forward to building up food reserves against possible lean years to come.

The famous Bar le Duc preserves and jellies are made with honey, not sugar.

The collapse of Russia was partly due to the lack of food supply for the army ond the people.

War is scraping our sugar bins and our granaries. The less we waste the longer it will take to empty them.

"Maximum Canning with Minimum Sugar" —the summer slogan.

The Vegetable Garden

(By Walter Birch)

THE fact that there is a right and wrong way of doing everything, applies particularly to the garden, so I shall give a few directions regarding the planting of a few of the vegetables that can be planted now for the fall and winter garden.

Taking it for granted that you have prepared your ground properly by deep spading in of well-rotted manure, preceded by a thorough irrigation, the next important thing is to plant the various vegetables properly.

Radishes are planted in drills 12 to 18 inches apart, and thinned slightly as soon as the plants are well up. On a quick, rich soil most varieties can be matured in from three to four weeks after planting. If the plants are allowed to remain long in the open ground the roots lose their crispness and delicate flavor, and in order to secure a constant supply successive planting should be made every two weeks. One ounce of Radish seed is sufficient to plant 100 feet of row. The first radishes to appear may be pulled as soon as they are of sufficient size, and this will leave enough room for those that are a little later on. Plant seed about one-half inch deep.

Lettuce—In order to have the leaves crisp and tender it is necessary to force the growth of the plant. Sow the seeds one-fourth to one-half inch deep in rows 14 to 18 inches apart, and when the plants come up thin them to the desired distance. With the heading type this should be from 8 to 12 inches apart. This will result in the formation of rather compact heads and the entire plant may then be cut for use, which is more satisfactory than planting closer and pulling the leaves off as they mature. The ground should be kept moist and well cultivated during the growth of the plant. The best heading varieties are Hanson's Head and Los Angeles Market.

Peas—There is nothing more delicious than peas if they are properly grown, and September is a good month to begin planting for the fall and winter garden. The Gradus is a good quick growing variety and one of the best to plant now and does not need any support. Plant about 2 inches deep in rows 3 to 4 feet apart.

Onions—Have your land well cultivated and manured and sow seed fairly thickly in drills 12 to 14 inches apart and about one-half inch deep. After the plants become established they are thinned to 2 or 3 inches apart. The maturity of the bulbs may be hastened by preventing the continual growth of the tops. This can be accomplished by pressing down or breaking the tops with a board or small barrel. After these are practically dead the onions may be pulled by hand and spread in a dry, well ventilated place to cure.

Beets—The seed should be sown in drills 14 to 18 inches apart and covered to a depth of about one inch. As soon as the plants are well up they should be thinned to stand 3 to 4 inches apart. From 2 to 3 plantings should be made in order to have a continuous supply of young, tender beets. Parsnips, carrots and turnips are all handled much like beets, of the four, carrots can perhaps, be left closer in the row than the others, about 2 or 3 inches apart. This plant, too, is less exacting as far as fertility is concerned.

The foregoing is simple and rudimentary, and is meant for the "green horns" to whom it is most important to start right, and we shall take up some other vegetables in our next article.

Go easy with your spoon—more than five million soldier boys are dipping from that sugar bowl.

A barrel of sorghum in the celler is worth a ton of sugar in Java.

The man who would eat cake at Christmas must cut on sugar now.

"On your honor as a woman, how much sugar do you **need**?

The distribution of sugar is just a little matter of arrangement among friends.

While labor is short farmers must fight shoulder to shoulder, neighbor by neighbor where the battle is thickest.

Be a pioneer and store home-grown food as if no freight trains were running or grocery store open.

Iceland, too far north to raise wheat, is preparing to make herself independent of grain ships by converting part of her potato crop into flour.

Budded AVOCADOS

of varieties endorsed by the Avocado Association; especially the FUERTE, best of all. May we quote you prices?

WEST INDIA GARDENS F. O. POPENOE, Mgr Altadena, Calif.

Dahlia Show Review

THIS issue of the Garden was supposed to be out before the Dahlia Show, but couldn't quite make it, so the next best thing is to give a sort of birdseye view of the show, which was held yesterday, the 18th.

The dahlias exhibited were probably the best we have ever had, both in range of variety and quality of bloom, this, too, notwithstanding that every exhibitor complained of the effect of the hot weather on his blooms during the past week.

As usual the Park exhibit, handled by Mr. Bode, in the absence of Supt. Morley, comprised the lion's share of blooms, filling in any blank spaces left after the other exhibitors had ceased coming, besides taking care of the general decorations of greenery. Their dahlias were very nice, and a display of American Beauty Asters, a new product grown from seed from John Bodgers & Son, Los Angeles, attracted much attention.

The display by H. E. Sies would have been a credit to any show anywhere. He had a great many varieties and they were all plainly labeled so you could make their acquaintance without a formal introduction. Some of his seedlings give great promise and he smiles when he thinks of what he will be able to do at next year's dahlia show.

Miss Sessions always has an interesting exhibit of odd things, and this year was no exception. Among them was a new begonia from Ecuador, and a new crinum.

A newcomer to be welcomed among the dahlia enthusiasts is Mr. Norton Langford, of Mission Hills. He seems to have a very acute attack, which has developed within the last three years. On a plot of ground 25x40 feet he has 108 varieties. The neighbors say it is an actual fact that he spaded that plot up fifteen times and put in five two-horse wagonloads of manure before he put in a tuber, and Mr. Langford admits it. The results seem to justify his action, as his many varieties and surprising quality gathered in six first prize ribbons, one second and a special.

Mr. Collins Gilmore exhibited a wonderfully fine red dahlia, Miss Helen Woods, of Mission Beach, had some pleasing and meritorious blooms, and Miss Hortense Coulter had a table of many kinds of blooms, of which the color tones were blue and yellow, with enough red to strike a brighter note. Her exhibit also comprised grasses and ferns which were interesting.

Mrs. A. D. Robinson showed some excellent tuberous begonias. Miss Nan Cristadoro had a fine display of zinnias, and a table decoration by Mrs. Fred Scripps of dahlias in a copper kettle, on a cloth in harmonizing color was most pleasing. It required the sunlight to complete the artistic effect, and that final touch was supplied in the afternoon through one of the art windows of the California Building.

Rosecroft had a large table filled mostly with Doazons, which were far from ordinary. Another round table was covered with that superb white dahlia, "Star in the East" a Rosecroft seedling, arranged in the form of a five-pointed star edged with "Philae". Mr. Robinson, Miss Sessions and Mr. Bode acted as judges and this Rosecroft table was passed by without official recognition. Exercising their prerogative, (whatever that may be) Pres. Connell and Secy. Miss Greer saw to it that a special-prize white ribbon was affixed to the white star.

An exhibit of many varieties of dahlias by E. Rust, of South Pasadena, was meritorious, as was also the spirit exhibited by sending the blooms such a distance.

The Park and Rosecroft had displays of crepe myrtle, and Hugo Klauber brought a vase of "Leonotis". This lion's tail is not common in San Diego. The Park also had some wonderful Lotus blooms of mammoth size. As the leaves fade they curl up showing two shades of green which add to their appearance.

This brief review of the show in no way includes all the meritorious exhibits, or gives full credit to all the exhibitors. But again we must call attention to the fact that the number of exhibitors was much too few. I like the spirit of Mrs. Patrick McFarland. She came on the streetcar and walked across the bridge to bring her four best blooms. I don't know what the judges thought of them, but they were considerably magnified in my eyes as I thought of the spirit of loyalty which came with them.

The California Building is an ideal place to hold such exhibitions, which can be staged there with a fraction of the work necessary to secure a down-town room and arrange the shows. The surroundings are all in harmony with the event, and our own citizens as well as visitors will learn to associate flowers, art and music with our wonderful park. The cooperation of the Park Board and Park employes is thoroughly appreciated by the Floral Association officers and members. The show was open only a few hours, and the attendannce was quite satisfactory, but of course a great many more should get the habit of attending, as they are educational as well as interesting.

When the war is over there will be only two kinds of men left—the men who did and the men who didn't.

The California Garden

Alfred D. Robinson, Editor
G. T. Keene, Manager
Office, 945 Seventh St., San Diego, Cal.

PUBLISHED MONTHLY BY

The San Diego Floral Association

Main Office, Point Loma, California

OFFICERS AND DIRECTORS

Stephen Connell, President
Walter Birch, Vice-President
L. A. Blochman, Treasurer
Miss Alice M. Greer, Secretary
Miss A. M. Rainford, Miss K. O. Sessions
G. R. Gorton, J. G. Morley

Entered as second-class matter December 8, 1910, at the Post office at Point Loma, California, under the Act of March 3, 1879.

California Garden is on the list of publications authorized by the San Diego Retail Merchants Association.

Subscription, $1.00 per year

ADVERTISING RATES

One Page	$10.00	Half Page,	$5.00
Quarter Page	2.50	Eighth Page	1.50

Advertising Copy should be in by the 25th of each Month

Elite Printing Co. 945 7th St., San Diego

AUGUST REGULAR MEETING

The August meeting of the San Diego Floral Association will be held on the evening of the 20th at the home of Mrs. F. J. Hruska, 4190 Palmetto Way, Mission Hills and the subject will be "Chrysanthemums". Mr. H. E. Sies will tell some of the things he has learned in the school of experience with this interesting flower. Take Mission Hills cars to Palmetto Way, and go to the first house north.

Flowers to Camp Kearny

After that strong hint in last month's Garden, about taking flowers EACH Thursday down town to be taken out to the hospital, I am hoping that many of you had an attack of prickly conscience and have just flooded the committee with blooms. We shall wait a few days more and then ask Mrs. Greer to furnish the Garden with the names of ALL members of the Floral Association who have donated flowers since the last issue, and will probably make it a monthly feature thereafter. It will at least show whether the Floral Association members or just ordinary flower lovers are the ones who are steadfactly maintaining this very important service. The Garden directed you to the wrong ticket office. The place to take your blooms is to the San Diego & Arizona ticket office, at the corner of First and Broadway.

Sawtelle, Cal., June 17, 1918.

San Diego Floral Association:

Enclosed find two dollars for California Garden for the coming year. It is worth that, and more to me, because of the brilliant work of the editor in presenting to his readers a lot of information which readers of the periodical can readily understand. Then, too, the Association deserves all encouragement for the great work it is accomplishing; educating people to appreciate the great outdoors with all of its growing things, which shall endure, long after the present turmoil and strife shall cease.

Sincerely Yours,
For the promotion of Horticulture; both Ornamental and Economic,
P. D. BARNHART.

National Questions Answered

Owing to the enormous increase of government war work, the governmental departments at Washington are being flooded with letters of inquiry on every conceivable subject concerning the war, and it has been found a physical impossibility for the clerks, though they number an army in themselves now, to give many of these letters proper attention and reply. There is published daily at Washington, under authority of and by direction of the President, a daily newspaper—The Official U. S. Bulletin. This newspaper prints every day all the more important rulings, decisions, regulations, proclamations, orders, etc., etc., as they are promulgated by the several departments, and the many special committees and agencies now in operation at the National Capital. This official journal is posted daily in every postoffice in the United States, more than 56,000 in number, and may also be found on file at all libraries, boards of trade and chambers of commerce, the offices of mayors, governors, and other federal officials. By consulting these files most questions will be found readily answered; there will be little necessity for letter writing; the unnecessary congestion of the mails will be appreciably relieved; the railroads will be called upon to move fewer correspondence sacks, and the mass of business that is piling up in the government departments will be eased considerably. Hundreds of clerks, now answering correspondence, will be enabled to give their time to essentially important work, and a fundamentally patriotic service will have been performed by the public.

The Mid-West Horticultural Exposition to be held in Des Moines in November offers prizes for canned fruits, preserves and jellies **made without sugar.**

Every pound of sugar means cargo space and cargo space is precious now.

IN YOUR OWN HOME---

Your valuable papers or jewelry may be *lost* to you tomorrow. Fire or theft may sweep them away *forever*. Be on the safe side and own a Safe Deposit Box at the—

Southern Trust & Commerce Bank [G. A. Davidson Pres.]

BANK—FIFTH & E STS. VAULTS—U. S. Grant Hotel Building, Fourth and Broadway

For INSECT PESTS, and their CONTROL

Consult Us!

Our Expert Knowledge enables us to give you the *Correct Remedy* for the particular form of "*Frightfulness*" in your Garden.

HARRIS SEED CO.

909 SIXTH STREET *"Results Count—We Get Them"*

BUY

War Savings Stamps

The Elite Printing Company

Nine Forty-Five Seventh Street
San Diego, California

Phone, Main 584

Particular Printers

Roses and Rookwood

—A combination as inevitable as roses and June. Let the gorgeous blossoms remind you that they belong in this soft-toned, exquisite pottery. Every Rookwood vase is an individual work of art—a fit receptacle for California's wonderful flowers. We can show you a splendid selection. Prices from $1 up

"A gift from Taylor's is a gift indeed"

Harold A. Taylor Company

1139 SIXTH ST., SAN DIEGO

AND

HOTEL DEL CORONADO

Howard & Smith

Corner Ninth and Olive Streets
Los Angeles, California

Phone Home F 4592 *Sunset Main 1745*

GROWERS OF

Roses
Conifers
Palms

Amaryllis and Tuberous Rooted Plants

In large quantities and great variety
Send for Catalogs

Nurseries at Montebello, California